

The applicant reiterates that it is not attempting to claim each individual PPI by itself. Rather the applicant is claiming a buffered PPI. In various independent and dependent claims, that a parietal cell activator can also be used in combination does not render the groupings independent and distinct sufficient to warrant restriction. By analogy, the applicant is generically claiming a fruit pie having a crust, with it being irrelevant what kind of fruit is used.

D. Interview with Examiner for Thursday 05 October 2000.

The applicant herewith confirms an interview with the Examiner on Thursday, 05 October 2000 at 9:00 am. A representative of the applicant, Shashank Upadhye, will attend.

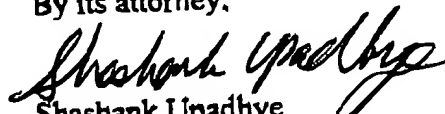
E. Change of Address:

The Examiner's attention is drawn to the last page indicating a new change of address.

Conclusion

The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and believes that the claims as presented represent allowable subject matter. However, if the Examiner desires, the applicant is ready for a telephone interview to expedite prosecution. As always, the Examiner is free to call the undersigned at 312-876-3119.

Respectfully submitted,
By its attorney,


Shashank Upadhye

Date: 27 Sept. 2000

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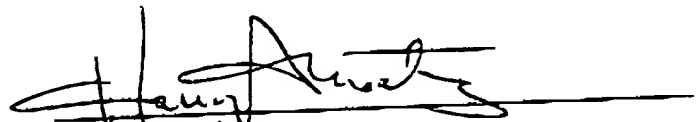
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Expires: September 14, 2001


Harry I. Moatz
Director of Enrollment and Discipline